Otome×Ranbu

otome x ranbu

Imamura Youko

Beginning 2011!! Every volume!! The second impact!!!

Fleeting, with strength, and with grace...
The strongest dancing princess has been born!
Come and dance with me...
Beginning 2011!
Every volume!!
The second impact!!!
乙女乱舞
otomeranbu
今村陽子
Youko Imamura
The First Dance
The Pure Butterfly
『sunny』
(少年画報社刊)
『アノニマス』
(アスキー メディアワークス刊)

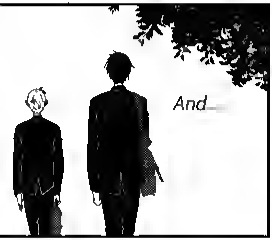
GOOD MORNING!
Oh, yesterday...
ALL 1ST YEAR STUDENTS ASSEMBLE!
Somewhere in the school grounds. Dances a white shadow. Is it a dream? Or is it a ?

SHOCKED
GOOD MORNING MOCHIZUKI-SAN
GOOD MORNING, KUROSAWA-KUN
WHAT WERE YOU LOOKING AT?
A BUTTERFLY WAS FLYING
What was that!?
THEY ARE RARE DURING THIS TIME OF YEAR... I WONDER...
Could it be... Deja vu...!?
OH, A BUTTER-FLY?
KURO-SAWA-KUN!

GOOD MORNING! ♡♡♡
YOU LOOKED SO COOL YESTERDAY, DURING THE KENDO CLUB COMPETITION ♡♡♡
squee
squeeee
ONLY A 1ST YEAR, AND YOU'RE #1 ALREADY! ♡
WHY DIDN'T YOU JOIN THE KENDO* CLUB?
squee
YOU MUST BE TRAINING AT AN OUTSIDE DOJO.**
THAT MUST BE WHY YOU CARRY A BOKKEN*** ALL THE TIME
I WILL SEE YOU LATER, MOCHIZUKI-SAN.
ALL RIGHT.
HEY! ALL OF YOU!
I'm so sorry!
THIS IS A SCHOOL CAMPUS,
THAT SORT OF BEHAVIOR IS INAPPROPRIATE!
KURO-SAWA-KUN, YOU TOO!
JUST A BIT...
SHOCKED
...!
WHAT ...
IS IT?!
SORRY, IT'S NOTHING

*Note: The Japanese martial art of fencing with bamboo swords
**Note: A formal training piece usually used for martial arts
***Note: A wooden sword used for training.

Kurosawa-kun, he...
MA'AM, I LIKE YOUR ANGRY FACE
I...
HAVE TO GO THE KENDO CLUB ROOM.
NOT AGAIN, KUROSAWA-KUN.
I WASN'T FLIRTING WITH HER.
Hmmm?
IS THE TEACHER STARTING TO LIKE KUROSAWA-KUN, TOO?
HE'S FLIRTING WITH HER, ISN'T HE?
MOCHIZUKI-SAN!
He's such an interesting person.
MY LOCKER'S ON THE SECOND FLOOR.
SEE YOU ALL LATER.



HMM...

I wouldn't say we're real close,

but sometimes he suddenly speaks to me.

But for some reason...
I always feel relieved
whenever he does that.
WELL,
THAT'S TRUE.
KURO-SAWA-KUN IS FRIENDLY WITH EVERYONE.
HOW COULD YOU BE SPECIAL TO HIM?
UM
PONDER...
bla——nk...

HEY!
WAIT!
LET'S WALK TO THE CLASS-ROOM TOGETHER!
HEEE?!
GOOD MORNING!
LIM.
SEE YOU, MOCHIZUKI-SAN.
Huh?
OH DEAR, YOU'RE A FRESHMAN.

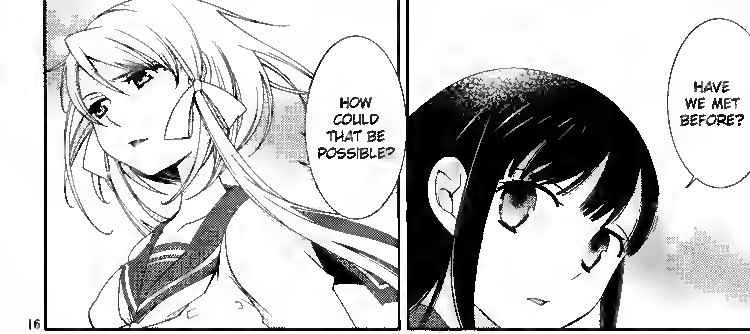
WHY WERE YOU WITH MOCHIZUKI-SAN?
NO REASON JUST LEAVE HER ALONE.
IT'S AMAZING!!
SHE'S SUCH AN AIRHEAD.
AH, YEAH, SHE IS ..
ZAP!
OUCH!
EH?
WHAT'S A KAMAITACHI?!
A CUT! WAS IT A KAMAITACHI?!"
DIDN'T YOU KNOW THAT YOUR SKIN CAN CRACK WHEN THE WEATHER IS DRY?
YOU REALLY DIDN'T KNOW THAT?

Note: A tide of weasels with sharp claws arising on a gust of wind and cutting people's

I DON'T KNOW
SO THAT'S THE DAUGHTER FROM THE MOCHIZUKI CLAN?
WOULD SHE BE USEFUL TO US?
WHO KNOWS
SCREECH
11
TWIST

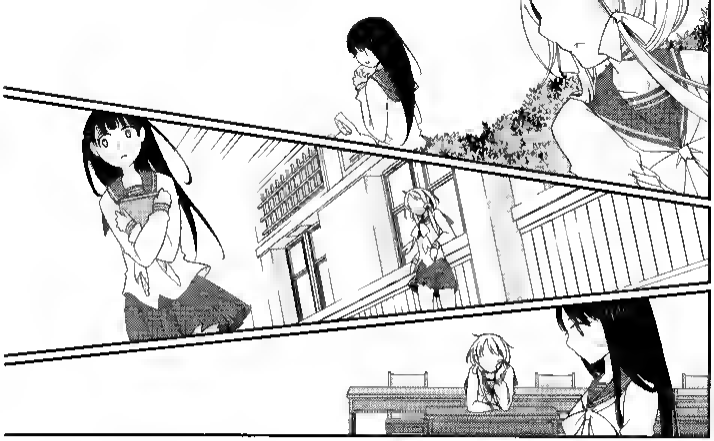
SHE HAD AN ACCIDENT,
AND LOST HER MEMORIES BEFORE SHE MOVED HERE.
ALL RIGHT, KEEP IT DOWN.
I SEE, I SEE.
AND ABOUT MOCHIZUKI-SAN...
THEN HER LIFE WOULD BE WORTHLESS
HOW-EVER...
IF SHE'S OF NO USE...
FLAP...

PLEASE LET ME INTRO-DUCE OUR NEW TRANSFER STUDENT!
SHE'S GORGEOUS!
WHAT A BABE!
SO CUTE!
STOP BARKING, LITTLE BOYS.
I HAVE NO INTEREST IN MAKING FRIENDS.
YOU JUST NEED TO KNOW WHO I AM
MY NAME IS...
IZAYOI YUKIJI
AH...
IZAYOI-SAN HAS BEEN LIVING OVERSEAS FOR A LONG TIME.
HER JAPANESE IS NOT VERY GOOD, SO I WOULD APPRECIATE EVERYONE HELPING HER OUT.
NO...
THOSE EYES...
LITTLE BOYS...?
IS SHE SERIOUS...?!
YOUR SEAT IS OVER THERE.
NEXT TO MOCHIZUKI-SAN
STUNNED!!



You're strange

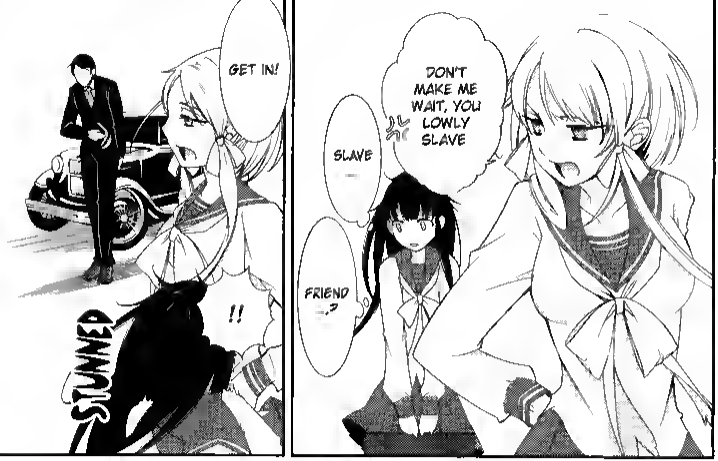
Right



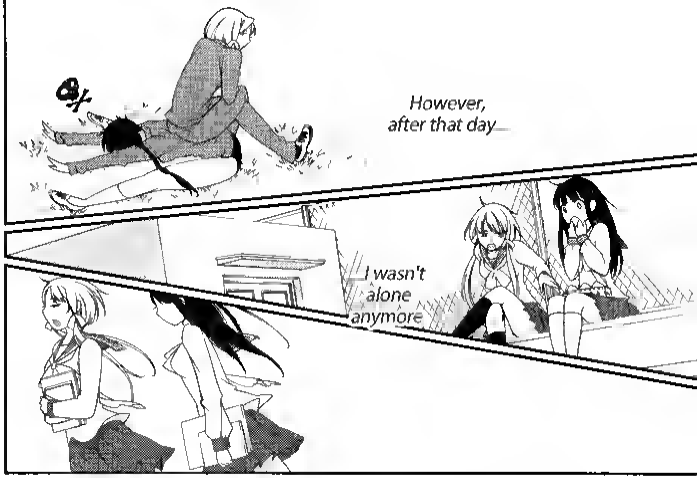
Why...
Why is she always watching me?
YOU'RE ALWAYS BY YOURSELF
ARE YOU LONELY?
But like she wants something from me
Not like Kurosawa-kun watches me...

MOCHIZUKI TSUBOMI!
FROM TODAY ONWARDS
YOU WILL BE MY SLAVE.
LONELY ...?
WHAT A PITIFUL LITTLE CREA-TURE
WAS YOUR VIGOR TAKEN AWAY, TOO?
WHAT A FOOLISH LITTLE GIRL
Lonely ?
HOW COULD YOU POSSIBLY BE USEFUL TO ME?
AND USEFUL ...?
CORRECT
!!

.....?
UH...
SHE SAID "SLAVE"...
MOCHIZUKI-SAN
ARE...
AND IZAYOI-SAN... JUST RETURNING FROM OVERSEAS... SHE'S JUST TRYING TO GREET YOU, ISN'T SHE...?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT...?
S-
"SLAVE" MUST MEAN "FRIEND."
Wrong.. "Slave" means slave...
THERE'S NO OTHER MEANING IS THERE?
IT'S ALL RIGHT!
FRIENDS...
TSUBOMI!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! WE'RE LEAVING!


GET IN!
!!
STUNNED
DON'T MAKE ME WAIT, YOU LOWLY SLAVE
SLAVE
FRIEND...?

I feel like no one has called me by my given name in a long time
YOU SHALL CALL ME YUKIJI
I DON'T LIKE MY SURNAME
YUKIJI...
YOU FOOL! IT'S YUKIJI-SAMA!
She's the first person I've ever had to call "sama."


However, after that day...
I wasn't alone anymore

YOU'RE REALLY ENJOYING YOUR DAMN SCHOOL LIFE, AREN'T YOU?
KEEP IT SHORT AND SIMPLE
I HAVE TO GO EAT FRIED PUDDING WITH HER AFTER THIS

ANGRY
WHY SHOULD I CARE ABOUT EXPLAINING WHAT'S GOING ON TO YOU?
YOU'RE AS SARCASTIC AS EVER.
RIGHT.
I DON'T REMEMBER EVER BECOMING YOUR SLAVE.
WHERE IS SHE—?
IT DOESN'T TASTE GOOD IF IT GETS COLD—
IF YOU MAKE HER LIFE ANY MORE MISERABLE,
I'M GOING TO CHOP YOUR HEAD OFF AND HANG IT FOR YOUR FAMILY TO SEE.

WHAT A SELF-RIGHTEOUS LITTLE BABY BOY...
I GUESS YOU NEED A SPANKING, RIGHT?
TOO BAD I'M NOT INTO THAT
BUT I WON'T MIND HAVING A BIT OF FUN WITH YOU
Jayce!
AAAAAA

*Shiki: A spirit summoned to serve its summoner in a number of ways including the ability to take a variety of human or animal forms, possess or severely wreck, and even cause bodily harm or death.

...IT HAS ALREADY POSSESSED HER.
WHOOSH
CRAP!

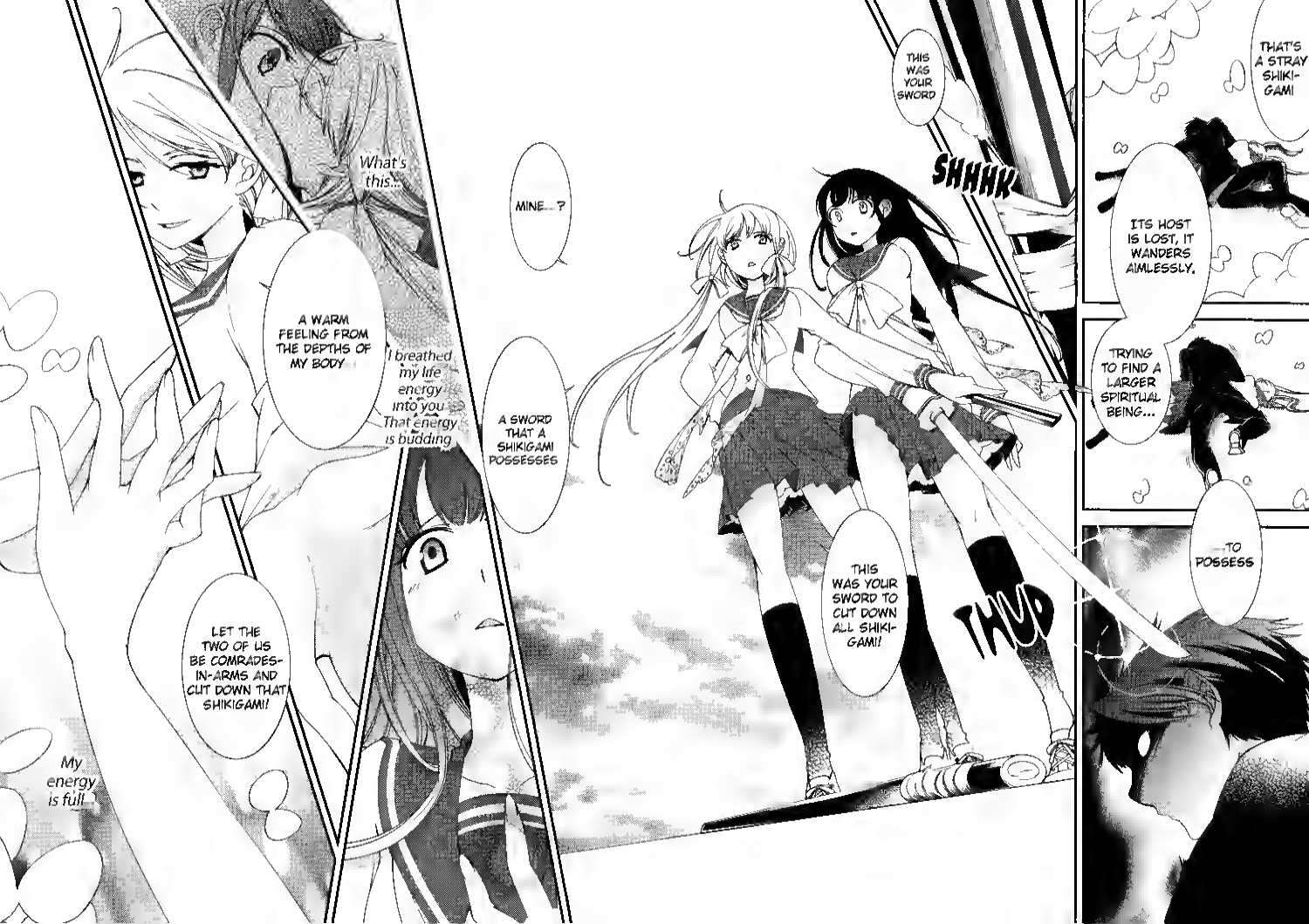
UGH!
PHHH!
...HMMM.
HE'S PRETTY GOOD
FINISH!
WAIT!
FWIP

TIGHT
GO GET TSUBOMI
SHE'S WAITING IN THE CAFE-TERIA
WHAT?!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION THAT TSUBOMI-SAMA IS IN?!
SHE'S A SEALED LIVING DOLL
THE SIGHT OF A SHIKIGAMI SHALL IMMEDIATELY AWAKEN HER SOUL

WHAT THE HELL DO YOU INTEND TO DO WITH TSUBOMI-SAMA?!
THAT DEPENDS ON HER.
SHE'S UP-STAIRS?
GO, DAMN IT...
YUKIJI,
IF THIS GETS COLD...
LEAP
ROOOOAR

TSUBOMI-SAMA!!
TSUBOMI!
SNATCH
UGH!
KUROSAWA-KUN?!
TACKL
E
YUKIJI...
WHAT'S GOING ON?!

BLOW
AH...
THE DIVINE SPIRITS THAT I COMMAND...
THEY ARE
SHIKIGAMI


What's this...
I breathed my life energy into you. That energy is budding.
A WARM FEELING FROM THE DEPTHS OF MY BODY
My energy is full...
LET THE TWO OF US BE COMRADES-IN-ARMS AND CUT DOWN THAT SHIKIGAMI!
MINE...?
A SWORD THAT A SHIKIGAMI POSSESSES
THIS WAS YOUR SWORD
SHHHK
THIS WAS YOUR SWORD TO CUT DOWN ALL SHIKI-GAMI!
THUD
THAT'S A STRAY SHIKI-GAMI
ITS HOST IS LOST, IT WANDERS AIMLESSLY.
TRYING TO FIND A LARGER SPIRITUAL BEING...
...TO POSSESS

No... It's overflowing...
I, IZAYOI YUKIJI, THE HIGH MASTER OF THE KARI CLAN, SHALL COMMAND YOU!
MOCHIZUKI CLAN MASTER, TSUBOMI!
BREAK YOUR SEAL AND DANCE WITH ME!

SLICE
What is this...?
My body knows how to move
I'm agile
Woosh

WILL KUROSAWA-KUN RETURN TO HIMSELF?
DON'T WORRY
IT IS OUR JOB TO RETURN THE SHIKIGAMI AND THE POSSESSED BACK TO THEIR ORIGINAL FORM
THAT'S— THE SAME AS THE BUTTERFLY, YOUR SHIKIGAMI
IT HAS ALWAYS PROTECTED YOU, IN THAT HOLLOW FORM
Kurosawa-kun, he has...
been my...?
IT'S COMING!
SLASH
... UGH.
WE HAVE TO FINISH THIS SOON
TSU-BOMI
THIS IS OUR FIRST JOB
LET'S DANCE BEAUTIFULLY!

CUT DOWN...
THE STRAY SHIKI-GAMI!
THE BOND BETWEEN THE POSSESSED AND THE POSSESSOR.
CUT IT DOWN!
THAT IS THE DUTY OF THE KARI CLAN!

I'm deep in the abyss of the ocean.
My feelings are drifting far away on the surface of the ocean
Out of my reach
What's happening...?
Are you lonely?

Tsubomi,
dance with me.
She lifted me from the abyss
But why? Why was I in the abyss of the ocean?
I understand now
I was
lonely

CHITOSE-SAMA,
THIS ISN'T GOOD FOR YOUR HEALTH.
OPEN IT MORE.
A GOOD WIND IS BLOWING
Is he another Shikigami master? His true identity is...?!

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Quality Check nokterni Sachiko
Special Thanks: Gummybear

The second chapter of the most talked-about new series!
I HAVE COMPLETED YOUR REQUEST AND RELEASED THE DAUGHTER OF MOCHIZUKI
SO YOU HAVE BECOME THE DANCE PARTNER OF TSUBOMI?
IN ORDER TO DO OUR JOBS, THIS IS NECESSARY FOR HER AND I
I DO NOT MIND AS I CANNOT MOVE...
CHI-TOSE EXCUSE ME
MY BROTHER.
I HAVE TO TAKE MY LEAVE
PLEASE GET SOME REST
HAVE A SAFE TRIP!
Yoko Imamura

This is the second chapter of the most talked-about new warrior maiden series!!
We two...
...are one...
They are the withering, strong, and beautiful dancing Shikigami slayers...!
乙女舌舞
おとめらんぶ
otomeranbu
今村陽子
Yoko Imamura
The Second Dance The Return Gift

Since that day,
my world became bright,
as if I have taken the breath of life
GOOD MORNING...
SO SLEEPY...
DO YOU HOMEWORK...?
GOOD MORNING!
MOCHIZUKI-SAN!
GOOD MORNING...
GOOD MORNING...
EVEN THOUGH WE'RE IN THE SAME CLASS, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE'VE GREETED EACH OTHER

MOCHIZUKI-SAN, IT FEELS EASIER TO TALK TO YOU LATELY...
REALLY?
HAVE A NICE DAY...
RIGHT...
MILADY
AH— IT'S IZAYOI-SAN...
SHOCK!

STOMP
TAKE CARE...
MAYBE WE CAN HELP—
IF THERE'S ANYTHING WE CAN DO FOR YOU, PLEASE LET US KNOW
MO-MOCHIZUKI-SAN
HEY!
WE'VE GOT TO GO...

GOOD MORNING,
YUKIJI

bm
mm
NO -SAMA?*
SAY -SAMA
I SEE THE GIRL'S NOT HUMAN...
EHH...?
TO BE HER SLAVE...
YOU ARE MY SLAVE
step
SHE'S AS ARROGANT AS EVER...
KURO-SAWA-KUN
Looking cool
GOOD MORNING.
YAHARI! KUROSAWA-KUN
HE'S SMILING -SAMA...?
TSU-KOMI-SAMA...
*Sama is a markedly more respectful version of -san. It shows respect for those that are higher in rank than oneself.

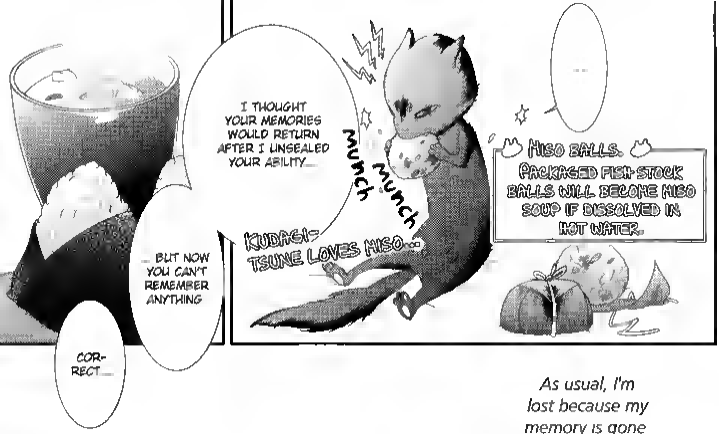
My world is shining
and
my world is getting very troublesome
STARE...
STARE...

THE MOCHIZUKI CLAN HAS BEEN DANCE PARTNERS WITH THE IZAYOI CLAN FOR MANY GENERATIONS
ISN'T IT REASONABLE THAT THE ONES WITHOUT PARTNERS WOULD EVENTUALLY PAIR UP?
I DID NOT MIND THAT YOU BROKE THE SEAL OF OUR MASTER – TSUBOMI-SAMA.
HOWEVER, WHY IS IT THAT YOU BECAME HER PARTNER?!

WHATEVER YOU SAY,
BUT FOR BEING THE SLAVE OF A SLAVE
DON'T
...YOU DARE CALL ME THAT! YOU ARROGANT OLD-FASHIONED BITCH!
grrr
grumble
LET'S EAT OUR LUNCH...
I SEE
STAND
UP
Heh.
I THOUGHT YOU NEEDED SOME COMMON SENSE BEATEN INTO YOU
NOW I REMEMBER, THE SPANKING WASN'T FINISHED—
Lunch...
AND THEN, THE ONE WHO IS TSUTOMI-SAMA'S PARTNER WILL BE...
....
HUH?
?
Giggle

So cute..
I AM A KUDAGI-TSUNE*...!!!
IS THAT YOUR REAL SELF KUROSAWA-KUN?
HMMM, YOU'RE A WEASEL...?
HOW COULD IT BE SINCE I JUST GOTTEN THAT CUT...!
AND THEN IT WAS WHOSE FAULT THAT I GOT THE CUT!?
SEEMS LIKE YOUR BODY HAS NOT STABI-LIZED YET
Angry growl

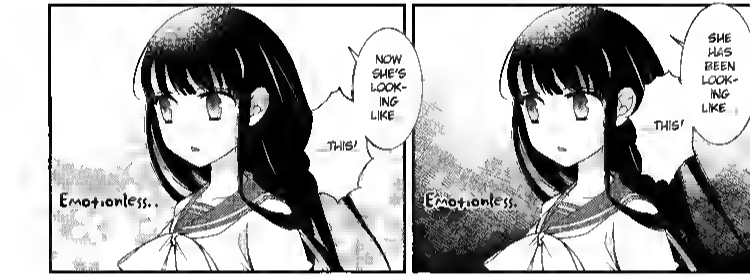
*Kudagitsune is a mythical fox spirit. No, it's not a Horo. (Horo is a wolf, haha)


I THOUGHT YOUR MEMORIES WOULD RETURN AFTER I UNSEALED YOUR ABILITY...
BUT NOW YOU CAN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING
COR-RECT...
munch munch
KUDAGI-TSUNE LOVES MISO...
MISO BALLS.
PACKAGED FISH-STOCK BALLS WILL BECOME MISO SOUP IF DISSOLVED IN HOT WATER.
...

As usual, I'm lost because my memory is gone

However

BUT I AM NOT SURE THAT I HAVE REALLY UNSEALED YOU
YOU'RE AS ABSENT-MINDED AS EVER.
ABSENT-MINDED...?
HUH?
SHE IS DIF-FERENT NOW


SHE HAS BEEN LOOK-ING LIKE THIS!
Emotionless..
NOW SHE'S LOOK-ING LIKE THIS!
Emotionless..

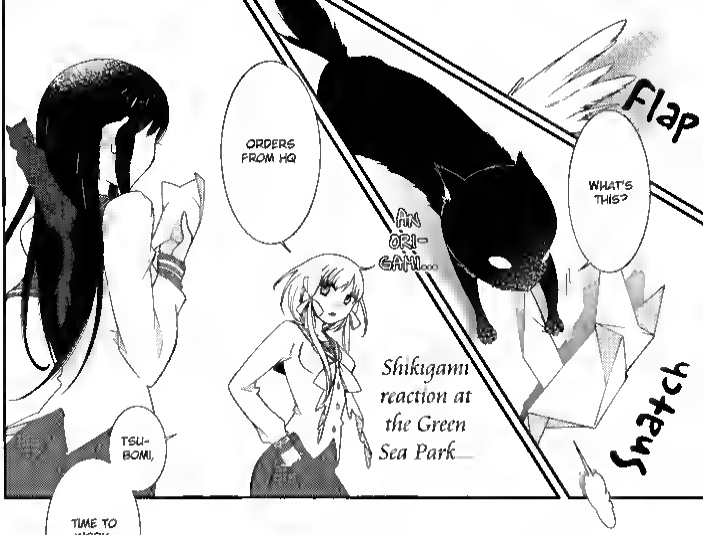
SHE IS DIFFERENT
I have no idea...!
HEH.
AH... ARE YOU NOT INTELLIGENT ENOUGH TO UNDERSTAND CHANGES IN HUMAN EMO-TIONS?
HERE THEY GO AGAIN...
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY... YOU LITTLE ANIMAL...?
Ahh

YUKIJI
SOME-THING IS
COMING
IT'S A SHIKIGAMI
11
WE SHALL CUT IT DOWN
SH
HHK
Shikigami... They are...
...holy familiars

THEY ARE NOT IDOLS OF WORSHIP
THEY ARE SPIRITS
DRAWN FROM SPECTERS AND LIFE FORCE
THEY SERVE WHEN THEY'RE BREATHED INTO A LIFELESS BODY
BUT THEY ARE SERVED WHEN THEY POSSESS A LIVING BODY

THE KNOT BETWEEN THE SPIRITS AND YOMI-SHIKI"...
We the Kaichi* Clan,
All Shikigami that disturb the living world...
...ARE FOUND!
WE SHALL UNTIE THAT KNOT!
...shall be slain!
We shall be the slayer.

*Kaichi Slayer
Yoshi (a.e. the non-living) objects that attract spirits


Flap
WHAT'S THIS?
ORDERS FROM HQ
AN ORI-GAMI...
Shikigami reaction at the Green Sea Park...
Snatch
TSU-BOMI,
TIME TO WORK

SO YUMMY ♡
♡

...IS THIS A TIME TO BE EATING CREPES?
OF COURSE SHIKIGAMI DON'T MAKE ANY MAJOR MOVES BEFORE SUNSET
WELL... YOU'RE RIGHT
YOU HAVE ONE WITH NEGI FLAVOR?
SORRY, NO.
SO SHIKIGAMI COME TO PEACEFUL PLACES, TOO?
SHIKIGAMI ARE EVERY-WHERE
YOU THREW IT TOO FAR!
SHIKIGAMI CAN POSSESS PAPER, MULCH OR EVEN DOLLS PRETTY EASILY
THEY USUALLY LOSE POWER WITH TIME, AND RETURN TO NATURE...
HOW-EVER, SOME-TIMES
flutter...
FOLD

SOARING
AMAZING, BIG
OOOOH
EVEN THOUGH IT LOOKS SO BAD, IT'S AMAZING!
IF SHIKIGAMI POSSESS OR ARE BEING POSSESSED BY LARGER SPIRITUAL BEINGS
THAT SHARE SIMILAR CHARACTERISTICS
THEY BECOME VERY STRONG
AND BIG TROUBLE
Sailing
Going...
Going Part...
IT REACTED!
IT'S COMING

MAYBE THE SHIKIGAMI WE GOT AT SCHOOL...
...HAS BEEN CAUSING A DISTURBANCE HERE RECENTLY...
IMPOSSIBLE! IT'S STILL BEFORE SUNSET.
Snatch
Flap...
KURO-SAWA-KUN,
CAN YOU CLEAR EVERYBODY OUT OF HERE?
YES, MA'AM
PLEASE GIVE ME YOUR ORDERS.
HMM...?
I AM A SHIKIGAMI, SO PLEASE FEEL FREE TO COMMAND ME

BADUMP
IT'LL BE A HUGE PROBLEM IF THIS GETS ANY BIGGER
LET'S DO THIS QUICKLY
RIGHT
YUKIJI...
IS SHE SHAKING...?
Why...?
Ah...
What is this feeling...?
Step
TSU-BOMI!
HURRY!
Step...
YES MA'AM!
Snap
GO!
CLEAR THE AREA OF PEO-LE
She's so excited...
AS I THOUGHT
IZAYOI IS LIKE HER PREVIOUS DANCE PARTNER, SO EVERYTHING SHOULD BE ALL RIGHT
TOO SLOW!
I'M SORRY...

Did you come here to cry, too...?
Ouchy!
Why?
You don't want me to see you crying...?
No!
Ouchy!
Do not come any closer to me!
What a rude little girl!
I am not crying!
But I know you.
Mom said,
Butterfly Shikigami are the sign of the Izayoi Clan...

You are Lady Chitose correct?
Correct
I am not going to look at your face...
Can I be close to you?
Is Lady Chitose's mother strict?

Ah...
Her shoulders are shaking...
But it's warm...
I'm afraid...
Don't you tell anyone!
I won't.
I don't have anyone to tell anyway...
But, I have to become strong
You're crying
Hey...
I won't tell your secret to anyone,
Will you be my friend?
Huh...?

A secret friendship
...
FELL...
23
I put her to sleep.
Flap
Flap
You were told not to interact with anyone.
My Shikig@mi...!
What did you do to her?
And you even claimed Lord Chitose's name. Unforgivable!
I did not say my name...
...nor did I show her my face
My head is light...
Let me go!

TSU-BOMI!!
AHHH!
WOOSH
BAM!
SCREECH

ARE YOU DAY DREAMING?!
I'M SORRY
What was that
A memory
NO YOU HAVE NOT!
YOU MUST BE MISTAKEN
I MIGHT HAVE MET YUKIJI BEFORE

FLAP
It has to be that is my memory
YUKIJI... SHE IS SHAKING...
Panting
SHE IS STILL SCARED...
GRO
Snap
AN
The thing I can do for Yukiji now is

I want to return that feeling.
SLA
WATCH OUT!
YUKIJI!
GROAN...
The energy given by Yukiji ! It is warm and peaceful !
I'M SORRY
Everyday is fun...
HUH—?

Snap
IT HAS TO BE... THAT WAS YUKIJI...
OUCH!
Snap
W—
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
MY ENERGY
I WAS ONLY THINKING ABOUT GIVING YOU SOME ENERGY
YOU GAVE ME MINE AND IT CALMED ME DOWN
SO I'M JUST RETURNING YOUR FAVOR
WE ARE DANCE PARTNERS
SO I JUST WANT TO SHARE THINGS I HAVE THAT YOU NEED

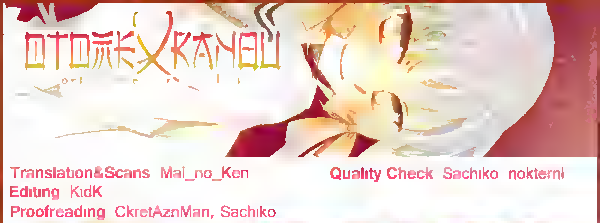
RAWWWWWR
Grawl...
SO,
SHALL WE FINISH THIS CARELESS LITTLE THING...?
RIGHT!
HUH ?
WHAT CHEEKY* BULL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
YOU
DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO BREATHE LIFE ENERGY...
THERE'S A CERTAIN WAY YOU HAVE TO DO IT?
THEN THE THING I JUST DID...
I DID NOT FEEL A CHANGE IN MY ENERGY
ANYWAY... THANK YOU!

"The kanji for "life energy" is one word less than for the kanji for "cheeky."

Kariichi Clan
Master –
Izayoi Yukiji
Mochizuki
Clan Head
– Tsubomi
HERE
WE GO!!

SO IT WAS A DOLL THAT WAS LEFT HERE
IT'S GOOD THAT IT WAS RE-TURNED TO ITS OWNER
GLAD WE FOUND IT!
I PUT A WEAK SEAL ON IT. SO IT WON'T BE A PROBLEM.
Me.too
Today was fun

The bond between them has become deeper



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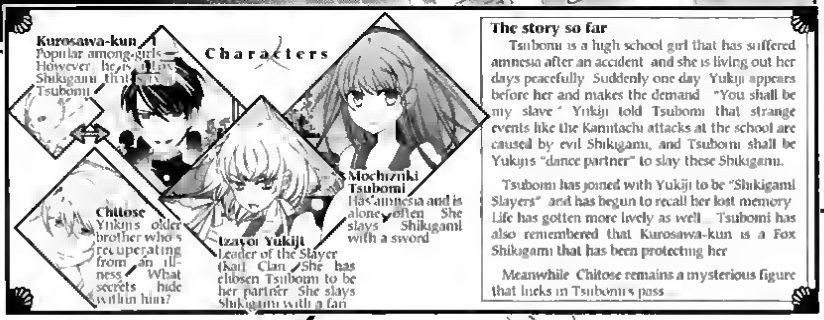

Characters
Kurosawa-kun
Popular among girls. However, he is in love with Shikigami Hunter Tsuboni.
Mochizuki Tsuboni
Has amnesia and is alone often. She slays Shikigami with a sword
Chitose
Yukiji's older brother who's recuperating from an illness. What secrets hide within him?
Izayoi Yukiji
Leader of the Slayer (Kai) Clan. She has chosen Tsuboni to be her partner. She slays Shikigami with a fan.

The story so far

Tsuboni is a high school girl that has suffered amnesia after an accident and she is living out her days peacefully. Suddenly one day Yukiji appears before her and makes the demand "You shall be my slave." Yukiji told Tsuboni that strange events like the Kamitachi attacks at the school are caused by evil Shikigami, and Tsuboni shall be Yukiji's "dance partner" to slay these Shikigami.

Tsuboni has joined with Yukiji to be "Shikigami Slayers" and has begun to recall her lost memory. Life has gotten more lively as well... Tsuboni has also remembered that Kurosawa-kun is a Fox Shikigami that has been protecting her.

Meanwhile, Chitose remains a mysterious figure that lurks in Tsuboni's past...

Yoko Imamura

Slips into the bed.
E...
EH?!
GOOD MORNING.
?!
Eeeeee?!!
JUMP UP!

With beauty, strength, and transience... The Japanese Warrior Dancing Princess of Fantasia.

乙舌舞

otomeranbu

The Third Dance ♪ Embarrassment

Stirring
Stirring...
I AM TELLING YOU, BUT...
TSUBOMI-SAMA TREATED ME LIKE A HOT WATER BOTTLE IN THE BED,
AND DIDN'T LET ME GO AT ALL.
...OH, IS THAT SO...
SORRY ..

BUT IF YOU HAD STAYED IN YOUR OTHER FORM...
...THERE WOULDN'T BE..
SORRY. IF I DON'T CHANGE EARLY TO THIS FORM, MY FORM MAY NOT BE STABLE.
Snuggle
Fluffy
DO YOU WISH TO CHANGE FIRST BEFORE EATING BREAKFAST?
Ano...
SORRY TO FORCE YOU TO MAKE BREAKFAST...

IT IS ALL RIGHT.
TSUBOMI-SAMA TREATED ME BY "COOKING" YESTERDAY
BREAK FAST
LUNCH
DINNER
CUP NOODLES
CUP NOODLES
USON
YOU LET ME LIVE HERE, SO I SHOULD AT LEAST COOK
I am living together with Kurosawa-kun
And..that is..because...
WHERE ARE YOU LIVING KUROSAWA-KUN?
ABOUT WHERE I AM LIVING... I AM LIVING BY YOUR SIDE, TSUBOMI-SAMA.
TO PUT IT SIMPLY AND DIRECT,
I AM LIVING IN TSUBOMI-SAMA'S GARDEN.

Since Kurosawa-kun is my Shikigami,
Since that is what I am,
Please do not worry about me.
he has been protecting me when I was in danger
Is he serious?
Is he... there?
Oh, goodness. It's raining.
And it just became snow...
Come in Kurosawa-kun...!
I can't stop worrying about you!!
SLIDE
OPEN
Since I had no memory,
getting suddenly close to a male classmate
gives me a strange feeling...

EH...!
HAS TSUBOMI-SAMA TAKEN NOTICE THAT I AM A MALE FOX?
WELL...
HOW-EVER...
And my father died before I was born.
I lived separate from my mother.
...
MY MOTHER IS BUSY INSTRUCTING OTHERS IN FIGHTING.
AH... EVEN YOUR MOTHER IS INVOLVED IN THIS...
THE MOCHIZUKI CLAN HOUSE BECAME MY WORK HOME.
I didn't know anything about this..
and I'm always alone at home and school.
I...

Even though I remember nothing..
..it seems..
you have always been around
I HAVE ALWAYS FELT THAT...
...KUROSAWA-KUN IS ABLE TO GIVE ME SOME COMFORT...
THANK YOU...
...FOR LOOKING AFTER ME.
However.
However, being just like this..
..is a comfort to me.

Chatter...
IZAYOI-SAN, MOCHIZUKI-SAN.
WE HAVE SOME QUESTIONS FOR YOU ABOUT KUROSAWA-KUN.

WHICH ONE OF YOU IS DATING KUROSAWA-KUN?!
Shock
YOU SUDDENLY SURROUND ME,
AND I WONDER WHAT QUESTIONS YOU WANT TO ASK..
GLARE
Aughhhhhhh.
YOU LITTLE Bi****S...
YOU ASK WHO'S DATING WHO?!
DON'T YOU DARE RUN AWAY...!!
WHAT THE...
Step
Step...
Step...
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
Oh... THE STAR IS HERE!
PLEASE DON'T WORRY WE WERE JUST A BIT NOSY.

KURO-SAWA-KUN, CONCERNING YUKIJI-SAMA.
WHAT?
I DON'T GIVE A DAMN ABOUT THAT B**CH.
AND...
HOW ABOUT MOCHIZUKI-SAN ..?
SHE IS MY MASTER.

HEY, YOU.
ARE YOU STUPID?
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE THAT I DON'T WANT TO HEAR THAT FROM...
I AM SORRY, TSUBOMI-SAMA IT SEEMS THAT I HAVE CAUSED SOME TROUBLE...
AND YOU PUT THAT PHONE AWAY
SNAP
AREN'T PHONES NOT ALLOWED IN SCHOOL?
WHAT?
I'M LEAVING EARLY.
YUKIJI?
MY BROTHER'S HEALTH HAS WORSENED, AND HE HAS BEEN TRANSFERRED TO THE HOSPITAL.

HEY...
WAIT..!
YOUR BROTHER...
DO YOU MEAN CHITOSE?

YUKIJI...
YOU HAVE A BROTHER...?
IS HE ALL RIGHT...?
...
...
...

What was that feeling just now .
WAIT...
I HAVE SOMETHING I WANT TO ASK..
DON'T WORRY..
THE PEOPLE AT HOME ARE JUST WORRYING TOO MUCH.

Something jumped...
...within my heart.
BOTH OF THEM LEFT...
CHITOSE HAS AWAKENED?!

IT WAS A BIT LATE TELLING YOU THIS.
THIS INFORMATION IS ONLY KNOWN BY A FEW WITHIN THE IZAYOI CLAN
FORGIVE ME.
AND ABOUT TSUBOMI-SAMA..
WHAT GOOD WILL IT DO TO TELL HER IF SHE LOST HER MEMORY?
ALSO, CHITOSE SAID NOT TO MENTION ANYTHING ABOUT HER TO HIM AGAIN
HIS BODY IS WEAK, TOO.
IF SOMETHING HAPPENS AGAIN, I AM NOT SURE WHAT WILL HAPPEN.
...
AND SO, YOU HAD UNSEALED TSUBOMI-SAMA.
CAN'T CHITOSE'S TESTIMONY PROVE TO EVERYONE THAT WE DON'T NEED TO SEAL TSUBOMI-SAMA?

I PASSED OUT AT THE LAST MOMENT...
AND YOU WERE THERE AT THAT MOMENT, WEREN'T YOU?
16
WHAT A USELESS SERVANT.
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY?
I HAVE NO TIME TO SPARE WITH YOU.
SEE YOU.
ANYWAY ...
IT WAS GOOD TO HEAR THAT HE AWOKE.
YOU'RE A KIND...
.LITTLE SPIRIT FOX.

BUT I THINK..
..IT MIGHT BE BETTER IF CHITOSE REMAINS ASLEEP.

DO YOU HAVE A MOMENT...?
EXCUSE ME,
MOCHIZUKI-SAN
EH...
HUH...?
WAS HE SERIOUS ABOUT CALLING YOU "MASTER"?
IT'S ABOUT KUROSAWA-KUN...

Everyone is teasing you about it, right?
Ah... right.
Is that so...
Maybe... yes, could be...
Ghostly aura spreading
Then ...
...it's good.
Then.
If I bury you away.
HOWLING
Would Kurosawa-kun no longer be sad?
Shiki-gami...!!
And the sword...
...is not here!
Tsubomi-sama!
A Shikigami has possessed someone...!

KUROSAWA-KUN!
LATER
Mowl.
bam
THE SWORD.
THANK YOU.
OH...? AND THE OTHER ONE YOU HAVE...
IT IS MINE.
I STOW IT IN THE KENDO CLUB ROOM.

TSUBOMI-SAMA.
INSTEAD OF BEING YOUR SHIKIGAMI,
PLEASE ALLOW ME TO BE YOUR DANCE PARTNER.
WHILE THE SLAYING CLAN COMMANDS SHIKIGAMI IN BATTLE,
IT ALSO WEAKENS THEIR OWN RESISTANCE TO THE SHIKIGAMI.
THERE-FORE..
..SLAYING ALWAYS INVOLVES TEAMINGS OF TWO.
ALL RIGHT.

AS I THOUGHT.
I HAVE SEEN...
I HAVE SEEN WATCHING FOR A LONG TIME.
MOCHIZUKI-SAN IS SPECIAL.
AND I HAVE KNOWN IT FOR A LONG TIME.
WE SHALL SLAY.
AS YOU COMMAND.

!!
WATCH OUT TSUBOMI-SAMA...
Who...
...are you?
Clatter
The other Member who is entrusted with that task
shall be called your dance partner.
IT SEEMS LIKE SOMEONE TAUGHT ME THAT A LONG TIME AGO
WHAT IS THAT VOICE
Slaying involves two people.
Whenever one of the members is possessed
And that is because
Tsubomi...
the other Member shall cut the Former down

BITE
HOWLING
EGH.
KURO-SAWA-KUN...
BLOOD...
Right, at that moment...
...he was injured too

Kukizune, the spirit fox, is a Shikigami whose role is to possess
Tsu-bomi.
If you go any closer, you will be possessed.
...
They may look pitiful, but you must not show half a bit of pity to them
Once a being is possessed by them, they shall never leave.
There are seventy five of us
We have so many brothers and sisters that weak ones take up the food for everyone

*Flower pistil

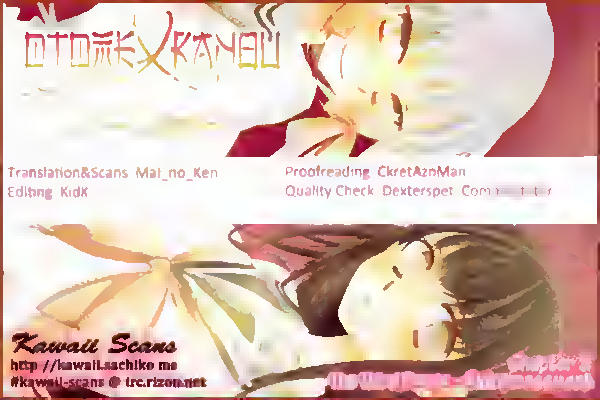
BAM
...WAS THE NAME THAT I HAVE GIVEN YOU,
MEANING GOOD OMEN.
THE MOMENT THAT I MET YOU,
I THOUGHT IT WAS THE SIGN OF A GOOD OMEN
TSUKIOMI-SAMA...!
That moment

I was
really
happy...

CAN YOU GET UP?
YES, I CAN.
LET'S HURRY AND LIBERATE HER.
SHIKIGAMI MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO MANIPULATE THE FEELINGS OF PEOPLE.
SLASH
GLITTER
LET'S GO, KAZUI.
YES, MA'AM.
Tsubomi-sama...

You must have...
..cried for me when I died.
That is why I shall serve you,
until that time ..
COL
LAPSE

ARIA 5巻 3月28日(木)発売 つづく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Characters

Kurosawa kun
Popular among girls but he is really a Kuda gitsune (fox spirit) who serves Tsubomi.

Mochizuki Tsubomi
A loner that has lost her memory. She slays Shikigami with a sword.

Chitose
Yukiji's older brother who's recovering from an illness. What relationship does he have with Tsubomi...?

Izayoi Yukiji
Leader of the Slayer (Kai) Clan. She has chosen Tsubomi to be her partner. She slays Shikigami with a fan.

The story so far

Tsubomi is a high school girl that has suffered amnesia after an accident and had been living out her days peacefully. Suddenly one day Yukiji appears before her and says to her "You shall be my slave." Yukiji told Tsubomi that strange events like the kamaitachi attacks at the school are caused by evil Shikigami and that Tsubomi shall be Yukiji's "dance partner" to slay these Shikigami.

Together with Yukiji as Shikigami slayers Tsubomi begins to regain her memory and live a more lively life. She remembers that Kurosawa kun is Kazu a Kuda gitsune (fox spirit) that has been protecting her.

Meanwhile, within Tsubomi memories of a certain man have begun to return.

Otôma Reiki

otomareiki

*small knife

Yoko Imamura

This is the fleeting, the
and the beautif
romantic
battle story
of fighting
high school
girls.
Now, Tsubomi's past shall be revealed...
A sacred ritual...
女舌舞
otome tanbu
Master Chitose.
It's fine to call me Chitose when no one is around.
Here...
We swear our promise
We shall bind our souls,
and become dance partners
I, Chitose, master of the Izayoi clan
I, Tsubomi, master of the Mochizuki clan
The 4th Dance The Substitute
Yoko Imamura

So this is the Mochizuki clan's discipline as retainers of the Izayoi clan.
I cannot. We must keep our families' statuses in mind and follow the rules strictly.
Your eyes look like those of a puppet without a soul.
Just like mine.
Are you lonely?

* This story is fictional and bears no relationship with any real persons, organizations, and events.

Are you lonely...?
Let me breathe life into you as I do to Shikigami
It should grant you a soul

YOU LOOK QUITE HEALTHY, DON'T YOU?
MY BROTHER-
IT'S JUST A HOSPITAL CHECK-UP
WANT TO EAT?
SLICE
IT WAS A MISTAKE TO LEAVE SCHOOL EARLY AND RUSH OVER HERE
AH... WHAT A MISLEADING
THAT WAS...
MY LITTLE CHICK...
THANK YOU FOR WORRYING ABOUT ME
YOU'RE SO KIND, YUKIJI

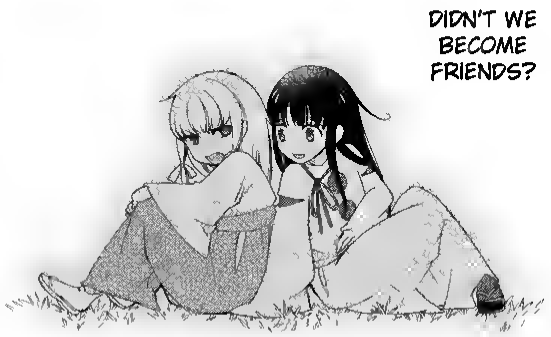
I always think about what if Chitose were not around
KIND?
ME?
I must not forget that I am Chitose-sama's substitute...
Whenever he sleeps
I've touched that throat many times
I KNOW ABOUT YOU, YUKIJI...
WE'RE TWINS...
I AM YOU,
AND YOU ARE ME.

OUR POSITIONS HAVEN'T CHANGED...
IF I CAN BE REPLACED
THERE'S NO NEED FOR ME, IS THERE?
YUKIJI, IF I WERE YOU...
I WOULD HAVE KILLED ME WHILE I WAS ASLEEP.

Bite
JUST KIDDING
SORRY FOR THE JOKE
WHY DO YOU THINK I HAVE THIS HOSPITAL CHECK UP?
HUH...?
KAZU!
HEY?
WHEN I'M LONELY,
I DREAM UP AN EXISTENCE OF YUKIJI ...
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE SAYING
IT'S ONLY BEEN THREE DAYS SINCE YOU LAST SAW HER.
THAT'S A GOOD THING, THOUGH! AT LEAST I THINK SO...
BUT I HAVEN'T EVEN GOTTEN AN E-MAIL, YOU KNOW?
SHE DOESN'T USE E-MAIL SINCE SHE'S SO OUT OF TOUCH WITH OUR GENERATION.
SHADDUP ☆
spinning around

* The picture refers to Hachiko – a famous dog that waits and longs for his master to return for many years.

Sigh...
SO TSUKOMI-SAMA IS INTERESTED IN THAT ARROGANT WOMAN...
EVEN THOUGH YOU HAVE ME...
YES!
I REALLY LIKE HER! ♡


DIDN'T WE BECOME FRIENDS?

AND DOESN'T SHE HAPPEN TO
LOOK LIKE A CERTAIN PERSON?
DOESN'T SHE?

EH...?
11
Zap
A SHIKIGAMI AURA—!
IT'S NEAR

OVER THERE!
LET'S GO!
KAZU!!!
READY ANYTIME!
IF THIS GETS UGLY WE'LL GET REPORTED.
HISS
OH, GOOD-NESS..
SHIKIGAMI IN THE SCHOOL
PLEASE EXCUSE ME
I THINK I CAN ONLY USE MY LEFT HAND
UNFORTU-NATELY I CAN'T GO EASY ON YOU
SOME-ONE IS HERE...
What is this oppressive aura
SLAM
JUMP

Who...?
WHAT IS THIS...?!
Kya...
Footsteps
Who
...are you ...?
TSUBOMI ...?

Faint
...
OH...?
THIS REACTION IS A BIT SURPRISING...
Collapsed
CH...
CHITO-SE...!
Why...
am I...
crying...
YOUR EYES ARE DIFFERENT FROM BEFORE...
TSU-BOMI...
I don't understand
But...

HUH?
I THOUGHT SHE GOT HER MEMORY BACK...
PANTING
I'VE TRIED THAT ALREADY
IT SEEMS SHE CAN'T TAKE THE SHOCK
DO YOU TWO HAVE ANY COMMON SENSE?
rustle rustle
AND...
I HAVE A BAD FEELING...
WHY IS CHITOSE AT SCHOOL?
MY INJURIES ARE MOSTLY HEALED NOW, SO I'VE DECIDED TO ATTEND SCHOOL
PLEASE TAKE CARE OF ME
BECAUSE HE SAID THAT ALL OF A SUDDEN,
MAKING ALL THE AR-RANGE-MENTS WAS A
WHERE'S YOUR UNI-FORM!?
I HAVE MY ARMS YET, SO I WILL BE LIKE THIS FOR A WHILE.
Yukiji's older brother

I didn't remember him

But my heart was uneasy

IS THIS THE TIME TO BE EATING FRENCH TOAST?
SHIKIGAMI DON'T START MOVING BEFORE DUSK
THIS IS FUN, ISN'T IT?
ISN'T THIS CALLED A DOUBLE DATE?
DOUBLE... DATE...
HOLD ON THERE, STUPID BROTHER.
Slam
HEY YOU, JUST HOW ARE YOU PAIRING US UP?

It's...
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
How you ask. Aren't we siblings?
And don't you two seem to be getting along well?
Ah! KILL ME.
Ah! MURDER?!
Do WE REALLY NEED TO EAT FRENCH TOAST?!
WHAT A PAIR OF THEM.
Cut in
IF WE PAIR UP LIKE THIS THEN THERE'S NO PROBLEM!
ALL FROM THE SLAYER CLAN.
WHEN DID THEY ALL GATHER HERE?
THIS DATE HAS A FEW TOO MANY FOLLOWERS
MORE IMPORTANTLY,

FWOO...
TO WATCH YOU...?
THEY'RE HERE TO WATCH ME
ARE THEY HERE BECAUSE THEY ARE NOSY?
TIME TO
SHOW OUR-SELVES
...
TSUKOMI, MASTER OF THE MOCHIZUKI CLAN,
I SHALL BE YOUR DANCE PARTNER

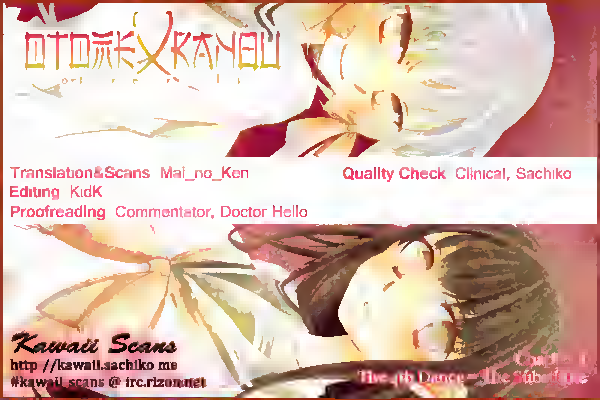
I DON'T NEED A SPIRIT FOX HERE.
YOU STAY BACK
YOU SURE HAVEN'T CHANGED.
YOU STILL HAVE THOSE COLD EYES FROM WHEN I FIRST MET YOU.
To all of our Slayer clan members.
I shall let your eyes ascertain whether or not
I am worthy of the Slayer clan.

Those wrists he has.
Those steps he treads.
TSUBOMI, IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE COME TO SHOW MANY DIFFERENT EXPRESSIONS.
Both are so nostalgic
I'M GLAD...
I must have
danced with this person in the past.

One time
one moment
long ago
had been forgotten.
If you have been granted a soul
from the breath that came from my body
is it one with love and emotion?

I...
killed you...
I HAVE BEEN POSSESSED BY A SHIKIGAMI...!
TSU-BOMI...!
That's why
More than anyone,
I wanted to be your dance partner.
That's why...
THE PERSON WHO IS ENTRUSTED TO SLAY THE POSSESSED PERSON
IS CALLED THE DANCE PARTNER
The breath of life so kindly given to me...
Your breath.
IF THE SHIKIGAMI REACHES THE SOUL, IT WILL COMPLETELY TAKE OVER ONE'S BODY.
THEY MAY BE POSSESSED BY ANY STRAY SHIKIGAMI
WHEN COMMANDING A SHIKIGAMI, ONE BECOMES VERY VULNERABLE.

MASTER YUKIJI
YOU'RE ADDRESSING ME LIKE A BOSS...
IF CHITOSE HAS RETURNED THAT ROLE IS HIS
NO, MILADY.
..?
YOUR ORIGINAL ROLE MAY BE
TO FULFILL THIS POSITION...
What are Chitose's secrets...? What is Yukiji's true role...? The next chapter is the finale!!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The 4th Dance - The 5th Bridge

A pure life hops,
And that is
Strong, ephemeral, and beautiful...
This is the finale of the legend of a dancing warrior princess!
The beauty that surpasses all sadness
In your world
乙女舌舞
o t o m e r a n b u
However, corruption resides in
This pair of hands,
And the prey that fell before them.

Yoko Imamura

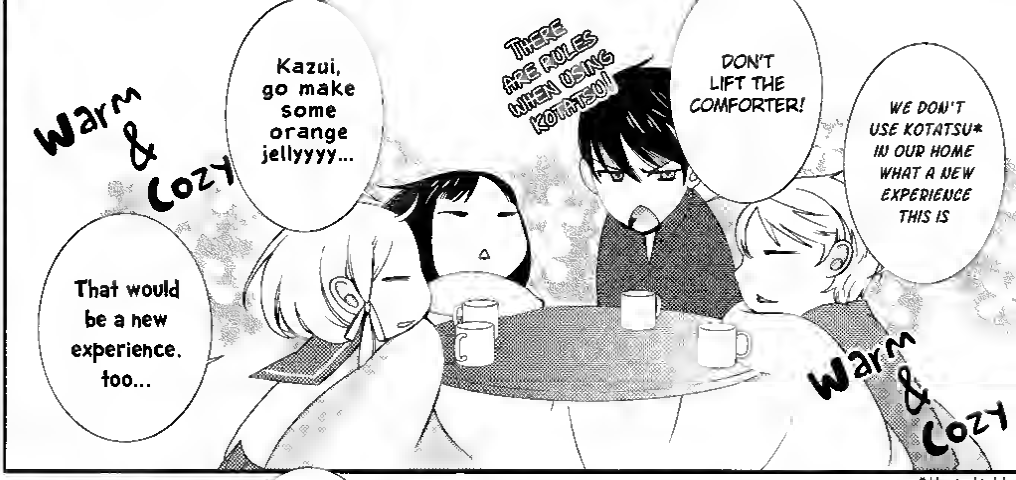
Together, at the end You'll never walk alone

Just inspiration from the anniversary from the anniversary of the Hillsborough disaster

This story is fictional and bears no relationship with any real persons organizations or events

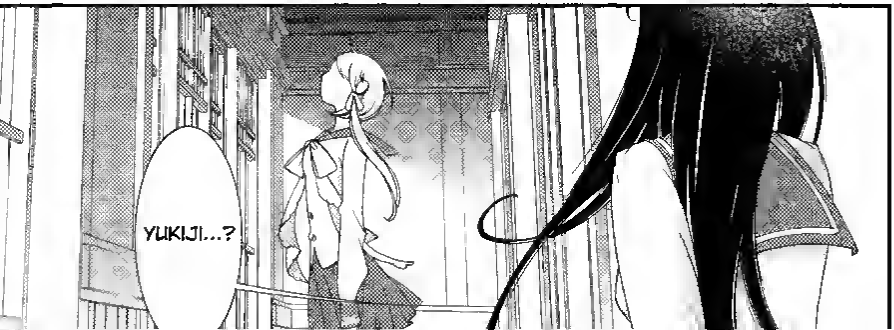
TSUBOMI WAS A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL, BUT SHE LOST HER MEMORY IN AN ACCIDENT. SUDDENLY, A GIRL NAMED YUKIJI APPEARED BEFORE HER AND COMMANDED, "BE MY SLAVE!" YUKIJI MADE TSUBOMI BE HER "DANCE PARTNER" TO SOLVE THE KAMAITACHI INCIDENTS, IN WHICH THEY SLEW EVIL SHIKIGAMI AS TSUBOMI GRADUALLY REGAINED HER MEMORY, THE UNTOLD STORY BETWEEN TSUBOMI AND YUKIJI'S OLDER BROTHER, CHITOSE, BEGAN TO UNFOLD.

YOU WERE LOOKING AFTER ME THE WHOLE TIME?
YES...
THAT'S QUITE THE SLEEPING FACE YOU HAVE.
IT WAS REALLY CUTE! ♡
UGUU ...!!
Please forget that face...
Eh?
Why me?!
KAZUI, YOU IDIOT. WHY DIDN'T YOU STOP THEM FROM LOOKING?
AND HOW LONG DO YOU TWO PLAN TO STAY HERE?
THERE WAS A CAR ACCIDENT, AND OUR CHAUFFEUR GOT STUCK IN THE RESULTANT GRIDLOCK.
AH, BEING STUCK ON THE ROAD, UNABLE TO GO ANY-WHERE...
GO HOME ALREADY!!

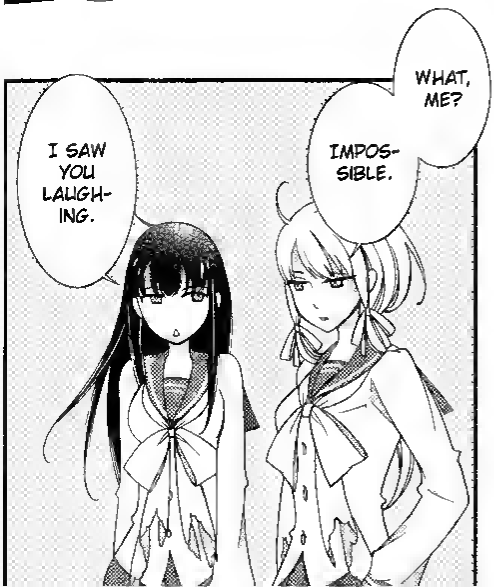

Warm & Cozy
Kazui, go make some orange jellyyyy...
That would be a new experience, too...
There are rules when using kotatsu!
Don't lift the comforter!
We don't use kotatsu* in our home what a new experience this is
Warm & Cozy

* Heated table

How about conquering the world?
How much do you reward him?
If I say I want orange jelly, he's going to make it...
My Kazui won't lose to anyone in that kind of thing
!!!


YUKIJI...?

I AM LOOKING AT THE CHERRY BLOS-SOMS...
THEY HAVE ALL SCATTERED ALREADY. HOW FLEET-ING THEY ARE.
IN THIS TINY LITTLE SHACK, YOU FOOL?!
YOU COULDN'T FIND THE TOILET?
YES,
BUT THEY WILL BLOSSOM ONCE AGAIN NEXT YEAR.
YOU WERE LAUGHING...
I NEVER KNEW YOU COULD SMILE LIKE THAT.


I SAW YOU LAUGH-ING.
WHAT, ME?
IMPOS-SIBLE.

EVERYONE WAS LAUGHING.
WELL, YOU LAUGHED EVEN MORE WHEN EVERY-ONE WAS HAPPY.

Everyone...
must have just naturally laughed out loud like that.
This pleasant moment ...
I HAD...
LAUGHED, TOO.
IS THAT SO...
IS THAT SO...

THE CHAUFFEUR IS HERE.
I'M COMING.
8
...
MASTER CHITOSE.
MY MEMORY HAS RETURNED.
...
I SEE...
THEY MUST BE HORRIBLE MEMORIES.
Master Chitose was possessed by a Shikigami.

Who would hold a grudge for being placed in that situation?
Did they do something to Master Chitose?
However, the bedridden Chitose shows no signs of being possessed
Master of the Mochizuki clan – Tsuloom...
We shall seal your slaying ability until Master Chitose wakes up, and banish you away.
WRONG...
Master Chitose was indeed possessed.
I slew him with my own hands.

Then,
How could he possibly be alive?
Who...
are you...?
TSU-BOMI.
Yukiji...?
IT IS THE ONLY THING THAT I LOVED IN OUR MOUNTAIN VIEW.
COME AND SEE THEM SOME TIME.
THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS AT OUR HOME ARE VERY BEAUTIFUL.

ALL RIGHT, MY SHIKIGAMI.
FLAP
DO IT.
YUKIJI ...?
DID YOU REALLY NEED TO PUT THEM TO SLEEP?
I think they will get in the way.
ISN'T TSUBOMI YOUR DANCE PARTNER?
IF SOMETHING GOES WRONG, SHE'S THE PERSON WHO WILL DO THE JOB.

MY DEAR BROTHER, WE DIDN'T HAVE AN OFFICIAL CEREMONY DURING YOUR ABSENCE.
APART FROM THAT,
I DID NOT WANT TO FURTHER HURT
THIS NICE GIRL WHO HAD FORGOTTEN THAT SHE SLEW HER DANCE PARTNER.
WE'RE GOING HOME!
THE REAL SHOW BEGINS NOW.

Shhh
FLUTTER
!!
Where did the spirit fox go..?!
A puppet?!
BITE
Lady Tsubomi...!
Please, wake up!
If I don't tell her what just happened...!
I AM LOOKING AT THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS.
THEY HAVE ALL SCATTERED ALREADY.

SHUT
CHITOSE.
WHAT IS IT?
SHIKIGAMI USERS ALWAYS LET THEIR GUARD DOWN WHEN COMMANDING SHIKIGAMI.
WE SHIKIGAMI CAN SEE WHERE YOUR SOUL IS EXPOSED.
SN
AP
SEE IT NOW?

...
IT IS STILL THERE... RIGHT THERE...
WHERE THE SHIKI-GAMIS HAVE INFESTED...
15
Tsubomi held back a tiny bit, and did not use all her power.
My body was killed,
But the shikigami clung on and has survived.
AND IT IS ABOUT TO REAWAKEN.
CAN YOU TELL TSUBOMI THAT?

We shall fulfill our responsibility.
The Masters of the Slayer clan have secret techniques to give to those born as twins...
The weaker one shall be the substitute.
THAT WOMAN...
I MEAN YUKIJI; SHE HAS THE SAME BODY AS CHITOSE.
THAT DEEPLY BONDED SHIKIGAMI
CAN BE PASSED ON TO HER.

THEY ARE TRYING TO TRANSFER THE HIBERNATING SHIKIGAMI TO HER
AND KILL BOTH OF THEM TOGETHER.
AH...
MASTER TSUBOMI, WHERE ARE YOU HURRYING TO?
TO STOP YUKIJI BEING KILLED?
OR...?!

I am...

THE MASTER OF THE MOCHIZUKI CLAN!
SLAM

Tsu-bomi?!
Don't get in tha way!
This is unavoidabla. For the saka of all, wa must transfer all of Master Chitose's power to tha Shikigami.
Don't you remember tha terribla things that have been happening?
This all began when Master Chitosa woke up.
They ara responding to the birth of the King of Shikigami!
Step back, Tsu-bomi!
Do you want to be the person to slay me?

No...
BUT...
HORRI-BLE.
THAT WOULD BE...
THAT WOULD BE...
If that is what you want...
I will do it with my own hands!!
I will not accept this
carried out by another person!
No...
I do not really wish to kill you.
What I desire is...

YUKIJI DOES NOT WANT TO DIE BY YOUR HAND.
SHE WANTED TO LIVE WITH YOU.
THAT IS WHAT I WANTED TOO.
I WOULD REGRET IT IF MY NICE BUT SCARY SISTER DIED BECAUSE OF ME.
BROTHER ...?
WAKE UP!
THE SHIKIGAMI WITHIN ME!

HOWL
HOWL
TSU-
YOMI,
I WANT TO
BE KILLED
BY YOU.
MASTER
CHITOSE
...
Chitose...!

PLEASE GET THEM OUT OF HERE!
UNDER-STOOD.
ARGH...
SLASH
KAZUI, EVACUATE EVERYONE.
OH MY GOODNESS, MASTER CHITOSE...
MASTER OF THE MOCHIZUKI CLAN, CAN YOU HANDLE HIM?
I HAVE FACED HIM BEFORE. LEAVE THIS TO ME.
THIS IS MY ONLY REMAINING RESPONSIBILITY.
YUKIJI...

I SHALL DANCE WITH YOU.
I ONCE EXPLAINED TO YOU WHY I BECAME YOUR DANCE PARTNER.
I ALSO SHOULDER...
YOUR PAIN AND YOUR SADNESS...
We told each other...
... of our sadness and feelings.
We intermingle.
And we...

SLAM
PAPER, I COMMAND YOU.
BECOME MY SHIKIGAMI!
And tear him to pieces!!
SWOOSH
I shall open up Master Chitose,
and let Yukiji blossom!
Snap
The warmth inside me...
I command you to blossom.
ARGH...
BLOOSH!

SNAP
HOP
CHERRY BLOS-SOMS
ARE BLOOM-ING...?
This is Yukiji's Shikigami...!!

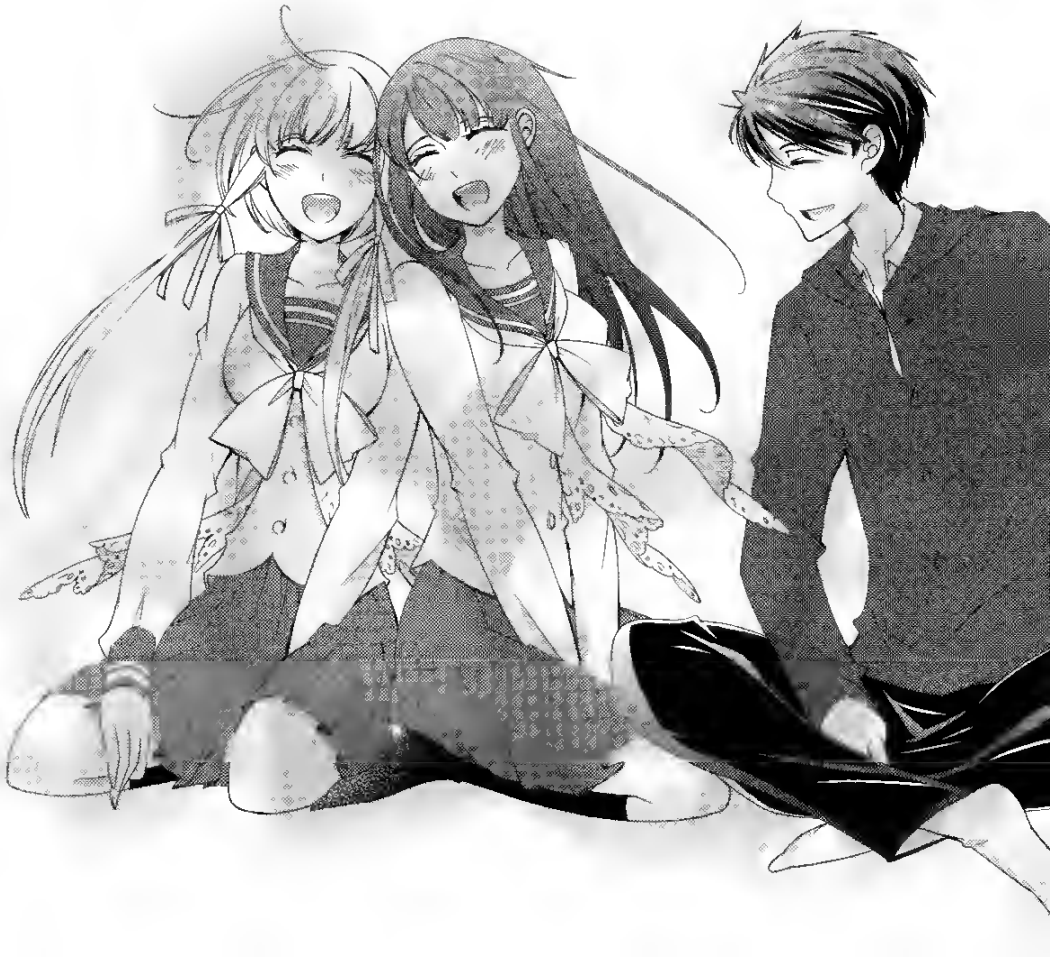
WHOOSH
Thou shalt shatter...
DON'T THINK SUCH PATHETIC SLEIGHT OF HAND SHALL WORK!

I ALSO LOVE THE CHERRY BLOSSOMS ON THE HILLS.
I THINK THEY LOOK THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THIS WAY.
It was fun...
When everyone was laughing...
ONE DAY YOU WILL COME AND LOOK AT THEM.
AND ON THAT DAY...
Are you lonely?
Yes, I am.
Every-one is lonely.

Please
laugh.

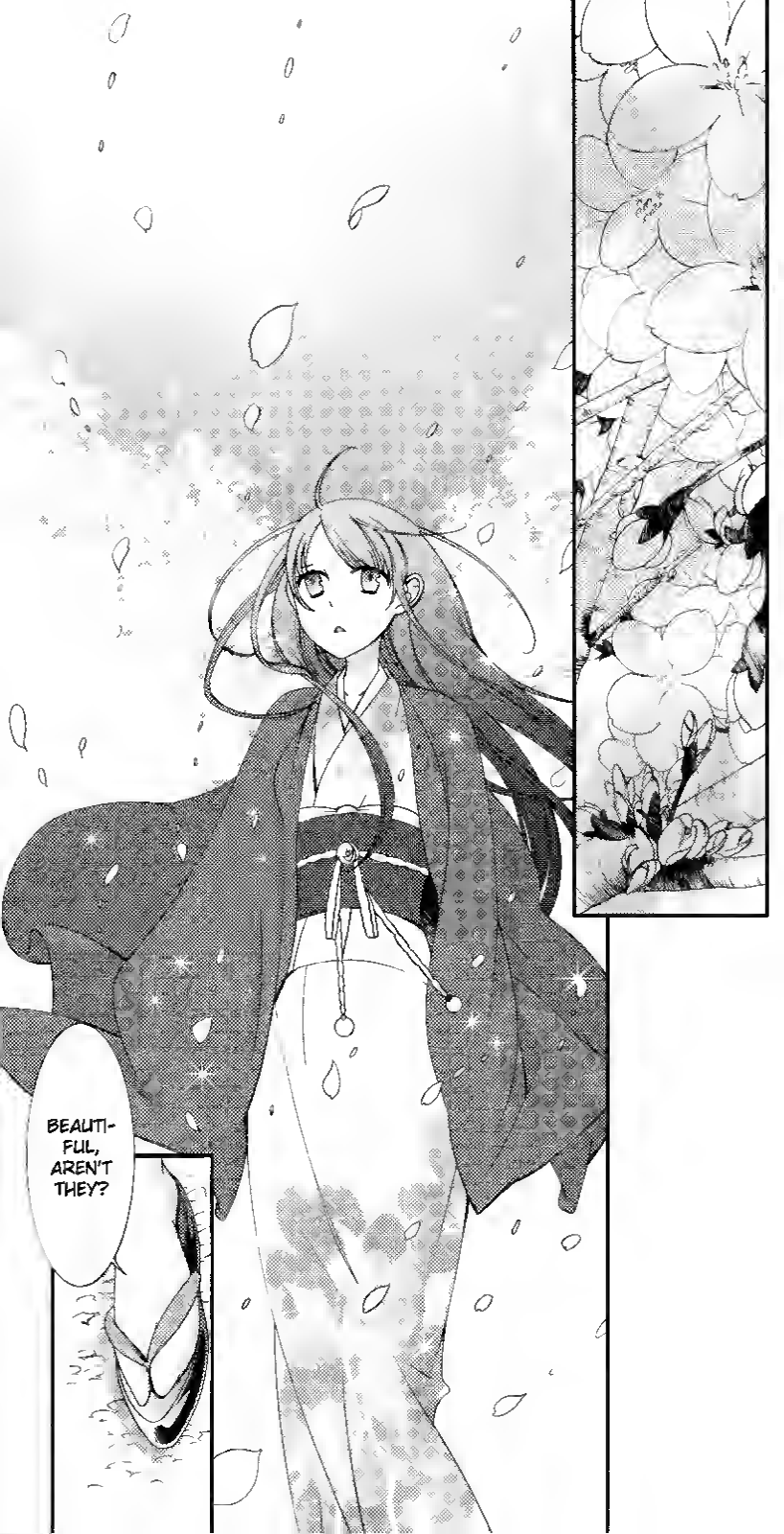
Laugh just
like you did

at that
moment.



DO NOT CRY; IT DOES NOT SUIT YOU.
Step
EVEN I WANTED MASTER TSUBOMI TO CRY FOR MY DEATH...
BUT IT WOULD BE EVEN BETTER IF SHE SMILES.
KA-ZUI?
HEY, ARROGANT WOMAN.

Kazui...?


BEAUTI-
FUL,
AREN'T
THEY?

YES.
THEY ARE VERY BEAUTIFUL.
IT WOULD BE GREAT IF CHITOSE AND KAZUI CAN SEE THEM, TOO.
WE CAN DO THAT AFTER-WARDS.
The moment I cut down both Master Chitose and the Shikigami,
Kazui had...
I'M GLAD THAT YOU CAME.
MASTER TSUBOMI
DID YOU TWO HAVE A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP?
WELL, SINCE YOU'VE COME, THERE'S NO NEED TO TALK ABOUT SLEEPING.

Kazui possessed Chitose's body...
DAMN IT.
YOU BETTER THANK ME. IF I WASN'T AROUND,
YOU WOULD BE DEAD.
IT'S THANKS TO ME BEING NO NORMAL SHIKIGAMI USER.
OTHERWISE IT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL, AND YOU WOULD HAVE DIED FOR NOTHING.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD THANK ME.
They are both living with only a little bit of a soul.
But it seems both of them will be bedridden for a while.
OH GOODNESS, THEY REALLY HATE EACH OTHER.
THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT I SAW MASTER CHITOSE LIKE THAT.
I CAN'T STAND THAT THEY CAN'T KEEP THEIR MOUTHS SHUT IN THE MORNING.
AND THEY CAN'T BE APART FROM EACH OTHER, THANKS TO THAT DEEP BOND BETWEEN THEM.

Let us all laugh together again.

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